



MORALE BOOSTER

the official journal of

UNITED FOR OUR EXPANDED SPACE PROGRAMS*

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Cover: On a clear day on Mars, you can see tens of thousands of rocks. Two high-resolution scans by one of Viking 2's cameras were mosaicked to create this scene, looking northeast to the horizon some 3 kilometers away. The rock in the lower right corner is 25 centimeters across. The largest rock near the center of the picture is about 60 centimeters long and 30 centimeters high. What appears to be a small channel winds from upper left to lower right. The slope of the horizon is due to the 8-degree tilt of the landed spacecraft. (NASA, *Viking 2-14*, P-17689)

Editor: J. Graham Maughan

Producer: Linda Strickler

*U.F.O.E.S.P. is a taxpaying, grassroots organization dedicated to political action to bring about a radical recommitment of this and allied nations to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space for the benefit of all. Memberships: Passive, \$4.99; Active, \$15.00; Lifetime, \$100.00. Board of Governors: J. G. Maughan, President; L. Strickler, Treasurer; J. Bytof, Chair/Science Advisory Committee; R. Lane, III, Assistant President for Light Industry; C. Mayfield, Assistant President for Interorganizational Affairs; I. Clark, General Secretary/Vega Chamber; C. Andrews, General Secretary/Antares Chamber; and D. Garvey, General Secretary/Far Centaurus Chamber.

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S T I M U L U S *****

E S N O P S E R

MAY 7, 8791

Dear Graham,

How do you keep the "business" in a business letter when you are all awash with an excited sense of accomplishment? We shall see how I handle that problem.

I think I should make a few asides before reporting my success, or the extent of my success, at Aggiecon IX. First and foremost I feel a special word of thanks should be given to Robert Strahan for all his gracious help above and beyond. Robert was a "flunkie" for the convention and was of invaluable service to me in the name of U.F.O.E.S.P. As you may notice, I have ten more petitions than you sent me--thanks to Robert. And at no cost to the organization--thanks to Robert. He also spent most of Thursday (the slowest day by far for conventioning) helping to get signatures from an almost absence of congoers.

Secondly I would like to thank you, Graham, for getting me into this "business" in the first place. I don't know if all of the org's work gives such a feeling of accomplishment, but if it does, I envy you and all those before me. If that needs an explanation, suffice to say that I had the most magnificent time of my entire existence and I can truly say it would not have been so grand but for what I was doing. Of course, all spacers have an immediate bond, but the comraderie I felt while working the con for our future was unsurpassed. Everyone was just super to me!

I hear someone in the background screaming for stats, so onward. . . I signed one Active member and sold three Futures, three doorstickers, two Morale Boosters, and got a one dollar donation. Money talks so suffice to say I collected \$20.00. In addition, 200 people signed the Fifth Petition but I talked enough to get double that number interested.

Further specifics:

- Active Membership--Kathryn Hansen/1600 Weiler Blvd/Ft Worth TX 76112
Fifteen dollars plus a dollar donation.
- Future Membership--Vickie Caffey/107 Elm/Rockdale TX 76567
F-41 She said she has several friends in Rockdale who would "definitely" be interested in U.F.O.E.S.P.
- Future Membership--Nita DeWitt/1620 Phoenix Dr/Wichita Falls TX 76305
F-42 Nita and Art DeWitt own and operate Wizards, Warriors, & Friends in W.F., dealing in comics, books, and magazines. They attend numerous cons in the area.
- Future Membership--Michael Eckey/1974 Mims/Ft Worth TX 76112
F-43 Mike is interested in Astrophysics--he's a student at University of Texas at Arlington.

I don't know how irregular the next item is, but I got the names two other people. Let's say they were poor Futures:

- Poor Future No. 1--Fritz Backus/14249 Lost Meadow/Houston TX 77079
- Poor Future No. 2--Ronald McReynolds/10257 Bayo/El Paso TX 79925

Graham, this may or may not be what you expected of me, as I am still a bit uncertain of your true expectations, but I am personally quite pleased with the results. Inasmuch as I have never performed such a service for any organization, I can say I at least achieved SOMETHING. . . I was on Cloud Eighteen while at Texas A&M University and, with some practice, I could surely surpass even that level. Being new to U.F.O.E.S.P., I'm not wholly sure just how much I could and should have done, but I know it gets easier!

I suppose that takes care of everything. If I botched or forgot anything, don't hesitate to let me know. And thank you for the opportunity to help.

P.S. I will personally be in contact with several persons I met at the convention and will attempt to get them into the org. The con may be over but I am still blitzing.

Carrie Mayfield
Route 3, Box 372
Wichita Falls, TX 76308

What better example of maximum advance can we have than your performance? Joining barely a month before heading such a successful delegation, you unhesitatingly rose to the challenge of turning an expected, exciting convention experience into an unexpected, cosmic organizing adventure. Comrades, this moment cannot pass without some harangue on personal initiative and responsibility. The most important point of the letter is the joy of coming finally from the simulator and taking to the streets and halls to make revolution. We are not alone; laugh and let us act! *** The Editor.

Graham,

Thirty-three Senators get re-elected or run, rather, for re-election this year. Of those 33, there are 6, period, that are on committees which affect NASA. They are: Walter D. Huddleston, D-Kentucky (HUD and Independent Agencies Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee); J. Bennett Johnson, D-Louisiana (Appropriations Committee only); Ted Stevens, R-Alaska (Science Committee); Edward W. Brooke, R-Massachusetts (HUD and Independent Agencies Subcommittee); Clifford Case, R-New Jersey (HUD and Independent Agencies Subcommittee); and finally Mark Hatfield, R-Oregon (Appropriations Committee). Now, are these fellows "good guys" or "bad guys" with respect to space? And against whom are they running? Can space be made a part of the campaign in any of their cases? I need to know.

P.S. Soyuz 27 is a re-supply mission. Linda was RIGHT! A permanent space station. . .oot Great!

Tim Kyger
P.O. Box 1072
Phoenix, AZ 85001

Last issue in the article "POW-2," I mentioned the Final Push to the fall election campaigns and the need for in-depth information about progressive (futurian) politicians. Field Headquarters in Phoenix and in Isla Vista will do as much as possible to gather and collate this data but the best sources for much of the information needed are people living in the districts of the various candidates. The membership stretches from one end of the continental United States to the other and each of you should transmit whatever knowledge you might have about Winn of Kansas, Case of New Jersey, Udall of Arizona, Mikulski of Maryland, Huddleston of Kentucky, or many others to I.V. or Phoenix. The primaries are underway and there is no time to lose making preparations. Gather that intelligence!

Dear Graham,

Although I joined U.F.O.E.S.P. by default, I was looking forward to a long and mutually profitable association with the group. By this past Christmas, my expectations were somewhat more modest: to last out my membership without resigning. I am afraid that after reading your answer to Robert's letter I am not going to make it.

I hereby resign from U.F.O.E.S.P. I no longer wish to be associated with

the organization in even a passive way. Furthermore, I want to state publicly why I am resigning: you are, of course, entitled to any political opinions you may have formed but I object strongly to your use of U.F.O.E.S.P. (and, by implication, my name) as a vehicle for your ideas without consultation with the membership.

The obviously correct thing for me to do at this point would be to oppose you for the presidency and call for a vote of the full membership. I am not going to do this for two reasons: a) I don't have the time, and b) it seems to me that the information dissemination-and-co-ordination which U.F.O.E.S.P. originally proposed to do, as I understood it, is already being done much better by the L-5 Society and duplication would be wasteful.

I wish you well in your crusade, but for the sake of the rest of the spacer movement I sincerely hope you will learn some tact, some logic, and a good deal of self-control. There is something to be said for realizing that other people are human beings also and therefore deserving of elementary respect and attention, whatever their opinions may be.

Amy Bouska Erbach
Department of Mathematics
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and Southern University
Blacksburg, VA 24061

Whether one joins U.F.O.E.S.P. "by default" or otherwise, each member has joined for the duration of his or her membership. This policy of the Board of Governors was one of the first ones adopted by the organization in 1974. Although U.F.O.E.S.P. is not a military organization, where such "resignation" is called "desertion" and carries the death penalty, it is not a simple capitalist enterprise like Time, whose subscribers may "resign" just because they got up on the wrong side of the bed one morning. U.F.O.E.S.P. is, quite frankly, an elitist organization, comprised for the most part of individuals who dedicated not just their careers, not just their fantasies, not just their hobbies, but their LIVES to the Space Revolution. By letting people like Erbach simply go, the "purity" of the organization would be superficially maintained. But by refusing to co-operate in any way with such abandonment of spacer commitment, the Board of Governors establishes a higher standard of membership.

No member has the authority to call an election. This authority rests solely with the Board as a whole and the active membership. The Board of Governors routinely sets election dates but the active membership may call for an election by circulating a petition and gathering signatures from 60% or more of the active members. The next election is set for October 29, 1978 at which time Ivan Clark and Carol Andrews will be up for re-election as General Secretaries of their respective chambers. The President, since he serves a six-year term, will not be up for re-election until October 29, 1980. The April issue will have further details on the next election.

The membership is consulted constantly on policy matters through the official journal, the Board's voluminous correspondence, and personal interactions at spacer events, to name only the three most prominent ways which come to mind. U.F.O.E.S.P. is not and has never been a "vehicle" for my personal opinions any more than it has for Robert Lovell, Alex Whitaker, Amy Erbach, Doc Garvey, or anyone else who has participated in the group's activities. If a member wants to be heard, he or she just has to speak up: *** The Editor.

Dear Graham and Linda,

My letters in Galaxy, the L-5 News, and the AAS Newsletter have generated a fairly good response. I am sending you a couple letters which ask specifically about U.F.O.E.S.P. I sent copies of the U.F.O.E.S.P. information sheet

to everyone who wrote in response to my letter in Galaxy. Concerning the letters you sent to me: I have already written to Ray Lane several times, and may meet him at a con in Michigan next week. But this Pat Hayden scares me. Is it just my imagination, or are people on convention committees just naturally hostile to U.F.O.E.S.P.? I hope he has nothing to do with the programming.

The stuff included should be self-explanatory. The letter from Kenneth McCormick, who lives near Philadelphia, shows there are other people who are active in the pro-space effort. I took the liberty of sending him the June-July Morale Booster; he may want to contact the ones who live in his area to help with his telephone chain letter.

I've gotten several letters from AAS and L-5 members, and I've sent the L-5 lobbying information to all of them, and to all of the U.S. ufoespers listed in the aforementioned MB. I wrote also to most of the spacer and futurian organizations listed there, except for the UFO research groups, but a lot of them seem to have disappeared or gone out of business. I have yet to hear from the National Space Club, the Network, the Star Trek groups, SEE, Space Now Society, and most of the futurist groups. Do you have any regular contact with these organizations? I wonder how many are still in business, or have ever been?

I have discovered several pro-space letter-writers in my Representative's district, and others in the Kansas City area. Most believed they were the only ones. Letters to magazines and newspapers seem to get at least some response from such people. Interestingly, of three pro-space letters that local people have written to the Kansas City Star, all three appeared on opinion-editorial page of the Sunday edition under pictures of space colonies, the Shuttle, or solar power satellites. If other people write like this, it may be a good idea to include a good quality photograph.

Speaking of which, many of the people who responded to my AAS or AIAA letters are high- and middle-level scientists, engineers, or bureaucrats with NASA or the big aerospace firms, including a Saunders B. Kramer of Washington, DC, who holds the first patent for the design of a space station and who has directed NASA design efforts such as the space tug. These people have been full of helpful hints and promise to supply me with information on future space plans.

I get the impression from other people to whom I have talked that there are a lot of spacers and would-be spacers "out there." The top people of NASA, especially Dr. Frosch, seem overly cautious and too conservative in what they expect from Congress. Perhaps they are not fully aware of how the majority of the people in this country feel about space. Maybe the amazing popularity of "Star Wars" and "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" can be partially explained by the public space consciousness.

I've sent along some random space news from Aviation Week and Space Technology and other sources. You'll notice a lot of stuff on Soviet "killer" satellites. A lot of people are starting to get worried about these developments. I hope we and the U.S.S.R. can sign some kind of agreement to halt the arms race in space.

On the political front, the Teague Resolution (HCR 451) offers spacers their first chance to support a specific piece of legislation. Perhaps when people write to support a larger NASA budget for Fiscal 1979 they can also ask for votes in favor of this resolution. It is the kind of long-range space planning we need.

The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics has been lobbying on Capitol Hill for years but now the L-5 Society has modified its charter and tax status, I hear, to get heavier into lobbying also. This is a step in the right direction, especially since groups like these have contact with many influential people. I have requested a revised version of the L-5

Society's membership list (arranged by zipcode) and plan to pass it on to you so that U.F.O.E.S.P. can make direct appeals to their membership. This raises that big question: what kind of contact does U.F.O.E.S.P. have with these other spacer groups? What we need is a little more unity among spacer groups. This is already beginning to happen in the form of overlapping memberships, but nothing seems to be happening on the official level. Have you corresponded with the leaderships of other spacer groups in an effort to co-ordinate actions? Many ufoespers feel like Tim Kyger and I do, that we need some kind of co-ordinating committee or something. . . . What is our experience so far?

Robert Lovell, Jr.
10908 West 65th Terrace, Apt. 303
Shawnee, KS 66203

As long-time members know, unity is the first cry of U.F.O.E.S.P. and we raise it not only for individuals to join forces in U.F.O.E.S.P. but also for groups to join forces in a broad coalition. Unfortunately, most spacer organizations, and I suspect groups more generally, would rather talk unity than act or create it. Things haven't been totally hopeless. After years of effort, the leadership of U.F.O.E.S.P. has created extensive communicative networks within the Space Revolution. Perhaps more importantly, the enterprise of Space Day 2 has resulted in the April Coalition's solid, if limited, foundation. With Space Day 3, July 20 next year centered in Washington DC, the Coalition has the perfect activity to extend its base and increase its strength. Their address: April Coalition, P.O. Box 14585, Santa Barbara, California 93107. *** The Editor.

Dear Mr. Maughan,

I refuse to retract my resignation from the post of Assistant President for Interorganizational Affairs and the organization, nor do I apologize for my actions. As I said before, I do not believe in procrastinating about assuming leadership. That explains my quick acceptance of the post and my quick resignation.

I do not believe that I can lead adequately while being associated with U.F.O.E.S.P. This is because I cannot accept your personal views on non-space matters as part of the organization's views. The Nov-Dec 1977 Morale Booster convinces me that they are inseparable. I refuse to participate in an organization that spends its limited time, energy, and resources on projects that I personally oppose (the March Against the Neutron Bomb, for instance). I am not intolerant of other viewpoints and I am more than willing to work for a common goal with people that have differing views on other matters.

However, in order to work effectively with you, I would have to accept your views on non-space matters, which I cannot do. I would especially have to accept your views on World War III and militant pacifism, which I will definitely not do. I am well aware that we live in a violent and dangerous world, but I do not believe that World War III exists or that its nuclear development is inevitable. Even if your assessment turns out to be correct, an expanded space program will make little difference. It will merely extend war into space. Since survival in space will be hard enough during peacetime, survival in space will be more unlikely than on Earth during a nuclear war. Also, adding space toys to our budget will not cause a reduction in the military budget. Consider the Apollo program and the Viet Nam War--they took place at the same time. I see the difference between an ardent pacifist and a militant one but the goals are the same for both kinds of pacifists, only the means different. In my opinion, the militant pacifist is as dangerous as the fantatical militarist--both will go to any lengths to

upset the world's peace and security just to satisfy their own personal dreams.

I know it appears that my views have suddenly switched 180 degrees from the time I wrote the letter accepting the post of A.P.I.A. They have not. I accepted the post with the blind enthusiasm of a frustrated spacer. I ignored the strange things said in the October 1977 MB because I was too excited with the prospect of working for a space organization--that lobbies! What was said in the Maughan-Lovell exchange had all been pretty much said before. However, your strong response to Lovell caused me to reassess my relation to U.F.O.E.S.P. I reread all the literature and our correspondence before I made my decision to resign.

In my opinion you are just another prophet of doom. I find your arguments no more compelling than the evangelist's about the Second Coming. I think this doomsday talk is hurting the spacer movement. It injects irrationality into what has been the most rational human endeavor in the Twentieth Century. A few fellow fanatics may be attracted, but U.F.O.E.S.P. will continue to be a very tiny outfit.

It is a pity. I find a lot of good in the organization, and you certainly have some interesting plans for the future. But I cannot accept your beliefs, which have little to do with space and which you are trying to cram down my, and the rest of the membership's, throat.

My resignation stands.

John Hedstrom
820--4th Avenue, Apt C27
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

Militant pacifists refuse to employ the means militarists stress as most important for social stability; the equating of the two is a clear example of faulty reasoning. And one must ask, is the bloodshed of the African Horn an example of the "peace and security" you fear militant pacifists undermining? Is the berserker war of Cambodia against her neighbors an example of this "peace and security" being threatened by militant pacifists? Are militant pacifists responsible for the endless strife of the Middle East? What about the Western Saharan conflict? The rampant terrorism of Europe? In every case, MILITARISTS are responsible for the death, destruction, and violence. These examples raise yet a second question: where are the "peace and security" of the world? Are they in the dictatorships of Africa? Are they in the hovels and slums of South Asia? Are they even solidly lodged across the racial divide(s) of America? The answer in each case is straightforward, "No; the world is at war."

The idea that the leadership of U.F.O.E.S.P. marches in lockstep to one person's beliefs is absurd. Leadership is exercised in the group by those who WORK, produce, create, or otherwise advance the Space Revolution. To be in the leadership it is not necessary even to be on the Board of Governors. Tim Kyger, a passive since joining in September of 1976, helped with Space Day 2 and currently is in charge of the Final Push project. Doc Garvey, another poor passive, is leading a delegation to an s-f convention, provides much material for MB, and is trying to get local activities started in British Columbia. Steven Nall, an active in faraway Florida, is eager to turn his talents to work building the organization and the Space Revolution through personal proselytization, artistic efforts, and participation in con delegations. The charge of totalitarianism or the cult of the personality is not only absurd, but tiresome. Shall we drop it?

One last point. For all the fire and protest, both Erbach and Hedstrom remain members of the organization. Not as they, or we, would like, but there, part of our historic work, just the same. *** The Editor.

Dear Graham,

Sorry I haven't been able to reply to your encouraging letter of January 27 and the April Coalition's press release of February 25 before now. Glad you liked the Aquarius issue of Space Age Review and thanks much for helping out with a subscription. We've mailed the Pisces issue to U.F.O.E.S.P.'s membership roster; thought you might be able to use this extra copy.

I am really impressed with your efforts to prevent the militarization of space. I think this is crucial both in preventing human catastrophe on Earth and in accelerating the New Age expansion into space. Most socially progressive individuals, I believe, are turned off by the prospects of space expansion if the end result is merely to extend the boundaries of war.

Your "pro-life, pro-space, anti-war" trinity seems well thought out and I hope you continue to improve your ideas as you put them into practice. There are plenty of high-power space technicians around; the Space Revolution has great need of humanistic pioneers. If Terrans start killing each other in space, how will they react when we encounter them?

We go to press with the Aries issue in two weeks so if there is any short message you want included in the letters section, especially concerning Space Day 2, please let me know as soon as possible.

Stephen Durst, Publisher
Space Age Review
378 Cambridge Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94306

Most socially progressive individuals are turned off by spacers, period, because most suppress their humanistic concerns out of fear of generating "controversy" or mixing space with "non-space matters" or creating "divisions in the spacer movement." Spacers must offer something other than a replica of life on Earth or existence in a technological Dream Machine to the "masses" if they wish to be taken seriously by enough people to make their plans come true. There is no hope of converting the majority of Terrans to pioneering space; even when settlements are established, most people will want to stay on Earth. Thus, history, past and future, demands emphasis within the Space Revolution upon the connections with the mundane world. *** The Editor.

Dear Graham,

I will represent U.F.O.E.S.P. at Disclave. The huckster's table is paid for and arranged. I will get in touch with Ivan about his assisting me there. Thank you for giving me the materials and the good company of fellow space revolutionists on my recent visit to the Left Coast.

Disclave is in Washington, DC, May 26-28 at the Sheraton-Park Hotel. Things are beginning to happen on Capitol Hill. A Senator from my State, Harrison Williams, has introduced a bill that would have the National Science Foundation study the feasibility of building Solar Power Stations in orbit. So ears are beginning finally to perk up where the purse strings are held. I am sending a copy of the resolution as recorded in the Congressional Record to you.

Hope things continue to go well and I will send a report on Disclave.

Alexander S. Whitaker
54 Hassart Street, Apt. 2D
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Things go well indeed! The Revolution advances; struggle on! *** The Editor.

TRIPLANETARY

by Jeff Bytof

<u>Year</u>	<u>Moneymaker</u>	<u>Space Mine</u>	<u>Road to Mars</u>
1979		Begin telescopic search for adequate asteroid of minimal ΔV . (\$100,000)	Space Shuttle
1980	Lucite Photon Trap perfected.		
1981	Space Shuttle fabrication of silicon solar cells.		
1982	Energy Storage Developments.		
1983	1985 ERDA photo-voltaic cost effectively reached.	Unmanned probe to asteroid, sample return. (\$300 million)	
1984	Photon Trap Power System (PTPS) available commercially using space-produced silicon cells of high conversion efficiency.		Small manufacturing station in low-Earth orbit. (\$2 billion)
1985	note: PTPS is ground based; no need for microwave beaming. Not as efficient as space power sats but		
1986	conforms better to "Planetary Balance Ethic."		Mars Rovers with subsurface permafrost detectors; will locate site of colony. (\$3 billion)
1987			
1988	\$1 billion/year PTPS sales.	Manned Retrieval Mission to asteroid, utilizing mass driver to place asteroid in high-Earth orbit on a "fail-safe" approach. (\$6 billion)	
1989			Mars Surface Sample Retrieval Mission to colony site and polar cap. (\$4 billion)
1990			
1991	PTPS materials manufactured with solar energy in high-orbit station, then sent to Earth by entry capsule.		High-Earth orbit manufacturing station. (\$12 billion)
1992			

<u>Year</u>	<u>Moneymaker</u>	<u>Space Mine</u>	<u>Road to Mars</u>
1993	\$10 billion/year PTPS sales.		
1994	note: part of PTPS profits are spent on space operations.		Development of interplanetary transport system. (\$20 billion)
1995	Many components of the Mars mi- gration may be	Further retrieval of asteroidal material.	
1996	constructed from asteroidal materials.		
1997		Simultaneous estab- lishment of vacuum	
1998		habitats, space bases, anti-matter factories, etc.	<u>First Manned Ex- pedition to Mars;</u> initial construc- tion and deploy- ment of equipment at colony site. Manufacturing sta- tion on Phobos constructs mater- ials for Mars-based PTPS; 12 people. (\$20 billion)
1999			
2000	U.S. totally energy self-sufficient, solar/hydrogen economy.		
2001			<u>1st Migration Wave</u> Initial construc- tion, proof of fundamental pro- cesses, rescue capability. Deploy- ment of PTPS at equatorial colony site. Possible ferry of volatiles to equatorial site from the poles; 100 people. (\$100 billion)
2002			
2003			
2004			Washout return flight.
2005	\$100 billion/year PTPS world sales.		
2006			<u>2nd Migration Wave</u> Completion of agri- dome. Extensive scientific explor- ation. Manufactu- ring capabilities



<u>Year</u>	<u>Moneymaker</u>	<u>Space Mine</u>	<u>Road to Mars</u>
2007			realized, medium technology items.
2008			Medical evaluation; assessment of positive and negative population health factors.
2009			Washout return flight.
2010	World hydrogen/solar economy; 80% to 90% of all energy is supplied by PTPS or other "solar" systems.	*Total self-sufficiency through	3rd Migration Wave Perfection of closed-cycle biosphere.
2011		→ Solar Power	Experiments with plants adapted to live "outside"
2012		→ Asteroidal Materials (eventual recycling).	Expansion and growth. Manufacturing capabilities-high technology level.
2013			*Total self-sufficiency through
2014		→ Universal Expansion	→ Solar energy
2015	*Earth totally self-sufficient; no further need for large-scale space manufacturing for Earth except replacement	↓	→ Surface materials; Phobos/Deimos
2016	silicon cells made in low-Earth orbit.		→ Growing population; cultural adaptation to new environment.
2017	→ Steady State Population.		
2018	→ Ground-Collected Solar Energy		→ Awareness of some growth limit.
2019	→ Materials Recycling		↓
2020	↓ "TERRAN GARDENS"	↓ "INFINITY ALLIANCE"	↓ "MARTIAN HORDE"

U T O P I A

PROGRESS IS OUR MOST IMPORTANT PRODUCT

J. Graham Maughan

This year is an election year and it is only fitting that U.F.O.E.S.P. should have its first elections since foundation nearly four years ago. An announcement of them will appear in the next issue of Morale Booster but I want to discuss them more deeply here as they concern most immediately the active members.

The posts up for election are the three General Secretaryships of Antares, Vega, and Far Centaurus Chambers. At present, only two posts have incumbents. Far Centaurus has never had a leader while Carol Andrews (Antares) and Ivan Clark (Vega) have served since the formations of their respective chambers in 1975 and 1976. The election takes place in the week beginning October 29, 1978 while campaigning begins July 29, 1978. The week interval is to compensate for the fact that the voting takes place by mail with all votes being postmarked no later than noon October 31. The details of casting a ballot can wait for a few months.

As President of the organization, elected by the entire active membership every six years, I must remain essentially aloof from the Chamber elections except as I participate in my own Chamber's politics personally. This means that I not only cannot recommend one party or another for election to General Secretary officially but that I must issue a formal call of encouragement to all qualified members to run for election. This call is given July 4 so that there is a twenty-five day registration period for the campaign. Because Morale Booster is the official journal of the group, the call probably will be printed in an issue printed in July because of our maximum use of resources.

A little review of the political structure of the Board of Governors is appropriate. The General Secretaries lead the more or less autonomous Chambers and they are up for election every two years because they represent the direct channels from the local membership to the national or international (interplanetary, unfortunately, is premature!) leadership. The President and Treasurer serve for six-year terms because they have the greatest responsibility for the day-to-day functioning of U.F.O.E.S.P. overall and represent the essential elements of continuity on the Board preventing the leadership from falling into chaos. The Treasurer is appointed by the President and General Secretaries which helps to reinforce the co-operative tendencies on the Board. Last but not least, the Presidential assistants are independent catalysts, appointed solely by the President, who give effect to the President's executive actions throughout the Chambers, irrespective of boundaries. Thus, the Presidential assistants strengthen, in no small measure, the sense of unity special to U.F.O.E.S.P.

As the membership is growing continually, a few remarks on the current Board is a good way to close this section. Linda Strickler, our dedicated Treasurer, and I have served in our positions since the foundation of the group and, like our autobiographical spacer last issue, still have dreams of "personal empires." Carol Andrews keeps things under control generally west of the Mississippi River while Ivan Clark is chief of local operations (some locale!) east of the same river. Jeff Bytof, current Chair of the Science Advisory Committee and automatically a member of the Board, has also served a stint as Assistant President for Interorganizational Affairs. That post is now the responsibility of Carrie Mayfield, who joined only recently and worked Aggiecon IX so thoroughly not long after joining the group. Finally, Ray Lane, III, plots revolution as Assistant President for

Light Industry and, like Carrie, accepted this responsibility of leadership not long after joining the organization. I might add that Ivan Clark, Linda Strickler, and myself are lifetime members, adding further layers of unity and continuity to our work.

So much of U.F.O.E.S.P.'s work is political that we are fortunate not having a lot of organizational politics to impede our advances or sap our spirits. The latest example of our exciting "fieldwork" is the (March) Convention Blitz. Although delegations to Norwescon, Minicon 13, Orangecon 78, and Balticon XII did not materialize, by extension of the blitz to other opportunities in April and May delegations to Leprecon 4, Aggiecon IX, VCon 6, and Disclave presented the message of the Space Revolution strongly to spacers from Washington, D.C. to Vancouver, Canada. Furthermore, the traditional delegations to Westercon and the Worldcon may be augmented by Ultracon in Florida in early July.

Leprecon 4 (March 17-19) in Phoenix was incomparably better than Desertcon 5 in Tucson the spring of 1977 although the two were quite similar in size, having the huckster room and art show in the same room, and frugal fen. Only one member signed up for the Revolution but he not only did so as an active but gave a simultaneous donation of \$35. Coming on the last day of the con, the reader can imagine the morale boost! The President and the Treasurer were slightly disappointed with the number of signatures on the Petition (60 on this year's Fifth compared to over 200 at Desertcon on last year's Fourth) but the sales of future memberships in addition to stickers and MBs compensated sufficiently. The Tsiolkovsky Library acquired a some more volumes and the personal contacts made and deepened with official and unofficial fen perhaps equal most of the other resources gained combined.

In the lead letter of "Stimulus. . .Response" this issue, Carrie Mayfield eloquently describes her success, with the assistance of Robert Strahan, at Aggiecon IX. The strength of her hastily organized delegation and her eagerness to continue such labors earned her the opportunity to serve on the Board of Governors. Besides increasing the ability of the Board of Governors to exercise correct policies through the addition of critical mental resources, the new boardmember's presence in the far southeastern section of Antares Chamber tremendously improves our "reach." The success with this con (March 30-April 2) is especially heartening as the convention took place on a university campus during the school year, the exact situation of Desertcon 5, our worst performance.

Field Headquarters is beginning to get word of the accomplishments of the delegation to VCon 6 (May 26-28) in Vancouver, Canada and already there is much to report. At the last moment, the Treasurer quite unexpectedly joined Doc Garvey's effort and during the convention Ron Gillies and Jim Johnston helped considerably. They gathered around 150 signatures on the Fifth as well as enlisting another active member. There were numerous future membership sales and promises of activation by old members and poor fen alike. Given the nature of personnel resources, news of successful contacts and personal interactions must wait until the delegation checks in.

Alexander Whitaker has not reported on his work at Disclave (May 26-29) but we can feel confident that the lag is more due to success than failure. Variations, sometimes large, will occur from one delegation's results to another's. The important aspect of these efforts is the momentum across so many dimensions of people, goods, and services added to the Revolutionary Engine of U.F.O.E.S.P. Having gone "nova with Bova" last year at CHRYSE-1, the progress since then compels the Board to conclude that the organization will go supernova with the 2nd Convocation. The faster we go, the faster we must go; the more we build, more still we must build. This is how we construct the NEW human race. ***

V O I C E S

Last month in this column I spoke of the advances of our Soviet comrades while mentioning that American efforts were having some difficulties which I would discuss in this month's installment of "Voices." We should note that there is an artifact built into these observations of the two superpowers' space programs. Because the Soviet program is controlled by the military in a closed society, the news we receive of Soviet space efforts is highly biased in favor of successes. The United States' program, controlled by civilians in an open society, appears in the press pretty much as it is, warts and all. Two factors mitigate the bias somewhat. One, remote-sensing equipment and techniques have reached the level where events are difficult to conceal. Two, the Soviet program has improved dramatically in quality so that successes greatly outweigh the occasional setbacks with which the Soviets, as mature space revolutionists after twenty years, have become accustomed as the price of progress.

The news from America is all mechanical with the most interesting mission, Pioneer Venus, half-way underway. Launched May 20, 1978 on schedule it should arrive at Venus on December 4. All previous missions by the U.S. were "flybys;" Pioneer Venus will place one orbiter around Venus with this first launch and will send five craft plunging through the atmosphere, taking many measurements along the way, with the success of the second vehicle, to be launched August 7. Venus may get further scrutiny this year if Soviet plans, as understood by A. Thomas Young, NASA's planetary programs director, succeed. He says they will launch two spacecraft in August that will separate into four sections upon arrival at Venus. Reputedly, two of these four will land on Venus. The idea or claim is not unfounded as the Soviets are the only space power to land craft on Venus successfully and they have done it four times.

Cal Tech and Hale Observatories astronomers have detected more rings around Uranus and now believe the total to be eight. The successful launch of Landsat 3 on March 5, 1978 improves our ability to process information about the planet's resources and environment and thus does tie "together technology and ecology" as Governor Edmund Brown said at the launching. But these achievements seem barely to keep American momentum in the Space Revolution when contrasted or calculated with recent obstacles. The Government Accounting Office has been particularly critical of the space program recently with attacks focused on the Space Shuttle and its operations in addition to the Jupiter Orbiter with probe (now named Mission Galileo). The attempt to cut the shuttle fleet to three has so far failed but it adds credence to the critics who want to have only four rather than the (minimal) planned five. The effort to stop development of Vandenburg AFB in California as a second Shuttle launch site also has been overruled by Congress. But the taxpayers revolt running wild across the nation after June 6 is going to give the foes of space an unprecedented opportunity to destroy America's space program.

The most dramatic and important event of recent weeks in the Space Revolution unquestionably is the success of Proposition 13 in the California June primary. Cutting property taxes by nearly 60%, it has forced politicians from high to low to talk cut, trim, conserve, save money, even if they don't want to believe it. The complete dropping of the budget item for California's first space efforts, in the form of participation in a communications satellite network, is an ironic reminder of the times when police, schools, welfare, public arts, etc. are under attack.

UNITED FOR OUR EXPANDED SPACE PROGRAMS
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COMING ATTRACTIONS

- * Space Day Faire, June 25
(Isla Vista, California)
- * Westercon 31, July 1-4
(Los Angeles, California)
- * CHRYSE-2, September 1-3
with
Iguanacon, Aug 30-Sept 4
(Phoenix, Arizona)
- * Election Day, November 7
(Nationwide)

To _____

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